

Juvenile Matters

Locations and Telephone Numbers

Juvenile Matters at Bridgeport
(203) 579-6544

Juvenile Matters and Child Protection
Session at Danbury (203) 797-4407

Juvenile Matters at Hartford
(860) 244-7900

Juvenile Matters at Middletown
(860) 344-2986

Child Protection Session at Middletown
(860) 343-6456

Juvenile Matters at New Britain
(860) 515-5165

Juvenile Matters at New Haven
(860) 786-0337

Juvenile Matters at Norwalk
(203) 866-9275

Juvenile Matters at Rockville
(860) 872-7143

Juvenile Matters at Stamford
(203) 956-5708

Juvenile Matters at Torrington
(860) 489-0201

Juvenile Matters at Waterbury
(203) 596-4202

Juvenile Matters at Waterford
(860) 440-5880

Juvenile Matters and Child Protection
Session at Willimantic (860) 456-5700



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CHILD PROTECTION MEDIATION

Resolving Disputes . . .
to Create an Optimal
Nurturing Environment



Superior Court Juvenile Matters

What is Child Protection Mediation?

Child protection mediation is a voluntary, non-adversarial dispute resolution program. The program is designed to expand on existing conferencing models, which include Order of Temporary Custody and Termination of Parental Rights case management conferences and case status conferences.

Child Protection Mediation is:

- Purely voluntary
- Confidential
- Convened with the consent of all parties to the case
- Court referred, not court ordered
- Designed to cover any issues in dispute



Who are the Mediators?

Each mediation team has two members. Teams are available to serve each court location. The composition of each team takes into account gender, cultural competency and area of expertise. The teams include Court Services Officers, private attorneys and clinicians. The mediation teams receive approximately fifty (50) hours of training before they may take cases.

What Types of Cases may be Referred?

Referrals for mediation are not limited to certain case types. Any child protection matter including neglect, termination, permanency review and guardianship cases may be referred.

Case issues include, but are not limited to:

- Complex service and resource availability
- Maintaining on-going relationships, including visitation
- Achieving permanency for the child
- Critical need for placement stability
- Open adoption, as an alternative
- New trial court litigation on cases where an appeal is pending on other issues

How is a Case Referred?

- Cases may be referred at any stage in the case after filing
- A case may be referred in court, at a case management conference, or at a case status conference

The Process Includes:

- Completing the intake process with a Court Services Officer
- Obtaining the Judge's approval

Intake/Referral Process:

- Complete intake/referral form
- Select a mediation team
- Sign agreement to participate in mediation/confidentiality agreement
- Schedule a return to court date

What Happens After the Mediation Session?

If the participants reach an agreement, the parties reduce the agreement to writing. The agreement is then reviewed in court by the judge and, if approved, incorporated into the case outcome.

If the participants do not reach an agreement they return to court for future case scheduling and handling.

